

Western Governors' Drought Forum
An Initiative of WGA Chairman Governor Brian Sandoval

Drought Impacts and Solutions in the Agricultural Sector – November 13-14, 2014
Governor's Office, Council Room – California State Capitol – Sacramento, CA
Draft Agenda

Day 1

11:15 a.m. Lunch served

11:30 a.m. **Introductory Remarks**

Gov. Brian Sandoval, Nevada, WGA Chairman

Gov. Jerry Brown, California

Introduction: James D. Ogsbury, Executive Director, WGA

12:00 p.m. **Objectives for the Drought Forum Project and this Workshop**

Western Governors' Drought Forum Overview

James D. Ogsbury, Executive Director, WGA

Meeting Objectives from the Moderator

John Laird, Secretary, California Natural Resources Agency

Participant Introductions

Round-robin of participants

12:25 p.m. **Roundtable I: What is Drought? A Slow-Moving Disaster through the Lenses of Agriculture, Water Management, and Environment**

Roundtable leaders will share their perspectives on drought, including how it develops and what proper drought management requires. *Discussion will then open to all meeting attendees, who will then help the group identify the key attributes of drought to consider throughout the workshop and revisit during closing thoughts on Day 2.*

- Kelly Redmond, Desert Research Institute
- Jason King, State Engineer, State of Nevada
- Jared Blumenfeld, EPA Region 9 Administrator

1:30 p.m. **Roundtable II: Drought Impacts in the Agricultural Sector**

Roundtable leaders will highlight the ways producers and agricultural professionals plan for drought and variable water supplies. *Participants will add observations on how drought conditions impact their operations.*

- Karen Ross, Secretary, California Department of Food and Agriculture
- Paul Wenger, President, California Farm Bureau Federation
- Bryce Lundberg, VP for Agriculture, Lundberg Family Farms
- Chris Kraft, Western Dairy Association and Dairy Farmers of America
- Lynn Hettrick, Deputy Director, Nevada Department of Agriculture

2:45 p.m.

Break

3:00 p.m.

Case Study: Cross-Agency Collaboration in Addressing California's Record Drought of 2014

- Mark Cowin, Director, California Department of Water Resources
- Chuck Bonham, Director, California Department of Fish & Wildlife
- Tom Howard, Executive Director, California State Water Resources Control Board
- Pablo Arroyave, Deputy Regional Director, US Bureau of Reclamation
- Maria Rea, Assistant Regional Administrator, California Central Valley Area Office, NOAA-Fisheries

4:00 p.m.

Roundtable III: Needs and New Frontiers for Data and Analysis

Roundtable on data and information needed by producers and agricultural professionals to manage, prepare for, and recover from drought. *Audience participation will be encouraged during the final 40 minutes.*

- Richard Howitt, Professor Emeritus, UC Davis, Center for Watershed Science
- John Andrew, Assistant Deputy Director, California Department of Water Resources
- Daniel Fullmer, Western Project Coordinator, National Young Farmers Coalition
- Jay Famiglietti, Senior Water Scientist, NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology

5:00 p.m.

Adjourn

5:15 p.m.

Reception

Governor's Office Courtyard; end at 6:45

Day 2

7:45 a.m. Breakfast served

8:15 a.m. Recap of Day 1; Review of agenda for the day

8:30 a.m. **Roundtable IV: Technologies and Innovative Approaches**

Innovative solutions and technologies agriculturalists are using or testing to maintain production with limited water supply. *Audience participation will be encouraged after opening remarks.*

- Keith Horn, Senior Director of Grape Management, Constellation Wines
- Damien Pearson, General Manager, North America, Rubicon Water
- Bill Phillimore, Executive Vice President, Paramount Farms
- John Diener, President, Red Rock Ranch

9:45 a.m. Break

10:00 a.m. **Roundtable V: Policy Approaches**

Roundtable on how federal, state and local policies can either help or hinder producers in adjusting to and managing drought. *Roundtable discussion with audience participation will be held after opening remarks.*

- Tom Birmingham, General Manager, Westlands Water District
- JJ Goicoechea, Nevada Sagebrush Ecosystem Council and Eureka County, Nevada
- Oscar Gonzales, California State Executive Director, USDA Farm Service Agency

11:15 a.m. **Next Steps and Final Thoughts**
Carlee Brown, Policy Advisor, WGA

11:45 a.m. **Thank You and Adjourn**
James D. Ogsbury, Executive Director, WGA